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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

DATE DISTR. Dec, 23, 1954

SUBJECT Soviet Military Manpower

NO. OF PAGES 6

DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

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PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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A. MOBILIZATION AND DEMOBILIZATION

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Pre-Military Training

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Rayvoyenkomat officials made potential inductees participate in organized sports and physical training on Sundays. [] races of four or five kilometers were common practice on these days. The Sunday activities were held about once every two months and there were usually two instructors from the Rayvoyenkomat, both officers (rank unknown), who directed the activities. [] about 100 men participated in the activities at one time and [] they lasted about six hours each time.

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ARMY review completed.

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4. [redacted] 100 men reported for induction [redacted] and [redacted] 25X1
 there might have been more [redacted] The medical 25X1
 processing took up the entire day and, [redacted] it was quite
 thorough. Height and weight were recorded; eyes, hearing, and heart
 were examined. An X-ray was taken, reflexes tested, and a test was
 given to measure lung capacity. [redacted]
 [redacted] 25X1
5. [redacted] approximately 30 out of the 100 men [redacted] 25X1
 were rejected or deferred. [redacted] some were deferred because of 25X1
 their educational background. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] reasons for rejection may have been poor eyesight, tuberculosis, 25X1
 missing or maimed limbs.

Inductions Into The Labor Reserve

6. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] physical fitness, education, and occupational specialty were 25X1
 important factors.

Year Classes in Germany

7. [redacted] 25X1
 the fall call-up of the 1929 class arrived in East Germany during
 fall 1949. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] The classes of 1932 and 1933 arrived in Germany
 sometime during 1951, as well as the classes of 1930 and 1931.
8. [redacted] about 1,000 men [redacted] arrived 25X1
 in East Germany, [redacted] 25X1

Trip to Germany from the USSR

9. [redacted] 25X1
10. [redacted] there were from 30 to 40 men in each boxcar. Along 25X1
 one wall of the boxcar were two rows of racks used for sleeping pur-
 poses. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] EM had no mattresses or blankets on the train. In the
 center of the boxcar was a small stove.
11. The men were fed twice a day, in the morning and at night. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] two men were designated to go to the kitchen car of the
 train to draw the rations (groats, macaroni, and tea) for their car. 25X1
 [redacted] all the men were issued two days' dry rations prior
 to their departure from Korosten; these rations consisted of sausage
 and bread.

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12. They travelled only during the day. At night the train was occasionally stopped at abandoned railroad stations. [redacted]

[redacted] There were no toilet facilities on the train. Water was available in the boxcars [redacted]

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Replacement Depot in Germany

13. [redacted] the replacement depot in Lieberose [redacted] was at the 7th Mecz. Div. Hq, 4th Mecz. Army. [redacted] these were summer quarters. The barracks were made of wood and [redacted] the area accommodated a division. Officers from various units came to this point to get their replacements. [redacted]

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[redacted] A group of men were standing around doing nothing when one of the officers came by. He asked them if any of them were tractor drivers in civilian life. Several answered "yes", and he said that they would be trained as tank drivers. [redacted]

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Unit Strength Figures ¹

14. [redacted] in the Recon. Co., 24th Mecz. Regt., the majority of the NCO's were of the 1927 year class [redacted] and [redacted] they were demobilized in fall 1950. After the class of 1927 departed, the majority of NCO's were of the class of 1928. The privates were about equally distributed between the classes of 1929 and 1930. [redacted]

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Year Classes Demobilized

15. The last class [redacted] to be returned to the USSR for demobilization was the class of 1929. This class left Germany sometime during fall 1952, [redacted]

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[redacted] There was one EM in the 10th Sep. Gd. Bn. from the 1929 class due for demobilization sometime in 1954. [redacted]

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[redacted] This soldier was a driver, and was inducted with the third call-up of the 1929 class. [redacted]

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Reserves and Reserve Training

16. [redacted] every man demobilized was automatically placed in the reserves for an indefinite period of time. [redacted] everyone demobilized had an indefinite term (bezsprochnyy otpusk) as a reservist. They could be called back to active duty at any time but probably only in case of an emergency. [redacted]

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Return to the USSR Before Completion of Service

17. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] Many men were sent back to the USSR for reasons unknown to them. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] While with the 10th Sep. Gd. Bn., three men from one of the companies in the battalion were aroused during the night and transferred; they did not know why. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
18. There were many reasons for medically justifying the return of an EM or an officer to the USSR. All men considered for return to the USSR for medical reasons had to appear before the Military Medical Commission (VVK - Voyennaya Vrachebnaya komissiya) and the commission made the decision. This commission was composed of three to five doctors [redacted]. The commission checked the patient's medical record and based its decision on personal observation and examination. 25X1
19. [redacted] men could be sent back to the USSR because of tuberculosis, the loss of a limb, or an injury that maimed the body and caused a serious handicap. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
20. [redacted] in [redacted] the 10th Sep. Gds. Bn., the majority of the soldiers had some type of stomach disease. The majority of the men had their appendix removed and many suffered from bleeding ulcers. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
21. [redacted] the degree of political unreliability necessary to cause an officer or soldier to be returned to the USSR [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] would not take much for such an action. A word in a conversation overheard would be enough evidence to put a soldier in a suspicious light. Soldiers never expressed their views among men whom they would not trust. [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] when a Komsomol member was dropped, he was declared politically unreliable and sent back to the USSR; [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] 25X1
22. [redacted] what types of military offenses caused men to be returned to the USSR but [redacted] members of the Soviet armed forces could not be tried in East German civil courts. [redacted] the following examples of men [redacted] were sent back to the USSR to serve prison terms: One soldier was sentenced to a three-year term for stabbing a sentry. Another got a four-year prison term for rape. One man was sentenced to three years for the murder of a German civilian. [redacted] a truck driver [redacted] over a period of time, had killed 12 German civilians by running them down with his truck. When he killed the 13th, he was caught and a court-martial sentenced him to three years in prison. [redacted] for stealing [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] the offender was only reprimanded verbally. 25X1
 All offenders sentenced to prison terms were sent to the USSR to serve their sentences.

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23. A reenlistee (sverkhsrochnik) could be tried by a court-martial in the same manner as any other soldier; however, if he were found guilty he was sent back to the USSR and demobilized. A conscriptee, on the other hand, had to serve his term in prison.

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25. The only reason for the return of a soldier to the USSR for compassionate reasons was because of the death or serious illness of the soldier's mother. This process also involved much red-tape. Usually two weeks elapsed before a soldier was granted permission to return to the USSR.

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Method of Return to the USSR

27. there were no special hospital trains to return soldiers to the USSR. Men to be returned because of illnesses traveled on regularly-scheduled trains;

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there were special prison railroad cars which were added to a train making a scheduled trip

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When a soldier was sent back before his normal tour of service was ended, the vacancy which occurred because of his departure was not filled until the normal arrival of unit replacements in the fall. no replacements arrived outside of the regular rotation periods. replace-ments arrived very late in 1953

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28.

C. LABOR SERVICE

29. It was the duty of the factory personnel section (otdel kadrov) to secure personnel for work in factories, mills, etc. The personnel section of each factory or mill hired and released people from their jobs. If there was a shortage of labor anywhere, it was the responsibility of the personnel section to procure the labor.

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Graduates of factory schools had to work at their trade two, and sometimes three, years before they were liable for military service. this did not always hold true and occasionally they were taken for military service before their period of employment was up.

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D. ENLISTED WOMEN IN THE SOVIET ARMY

30. [redacted] Soviet Army EW in the medical unit of the 7th Mecz. Div. in 1951. Later, [redacted] in a hospital in Potsdam. In most cases, they were nurses, medical aides, storekeepers, janitresses, and officer mess attendants. [redacted] EW working in the dispensary of the 10th Sep. Gd. Bn. [redacted] the EW who worked in the hospital and dispensaries were assigned to medical units. 25X1
31. [redacted] Soviet Army EW took close-order drill [redacted] One day [redacted] a male Soviet Army sergeant marching Soviet EW in formation. 25X1
32. [redacted] the average EW private's pay was 250 East Marks a month and [redacted] they also received rubles; [redacted] the pay varied with the type of work done [redacted] 25X1
33. [redacted] [redacted] the term of service for Soviet Army EW was three years. 25X1

34. [redacted] 25X1

E. [redacted]

35. [redacted]

F. [redacted]

36. [redacted]

1. [redacted]

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